CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A system for automatically fulfilling orders for clinically related supplies, comprising:

an interface to a supply chain engine, the supply chain engine automatically generating at least one order for clinically related supplies based upon supply consumption data documented for at least one clinical event reported from at least one clinically related site; and

a fulfillment engine, communicating with the interface to the supply chain engine, the fulfillment engine triggering delivery of clinically related supplies based at least upon the at least one order for clinically related supplies.

2. A system according to claim 1, wherein the clinically related site comprises at least one of a hospital facility, a research facility and a government facility.

3. A system according to claim 1, wherein the supply inventory data comprises at least one of clinically available quantities of surgical devices, clinically available quantities of pharmaceuticals and clinically available quantities of consumable material.

4. A system according to claim 1, wherein the supply chain engine generates the at least one clinical supply order based upon at least one clinical quantity threshold.

5. A system according to claim 1, wherein the at least one order for clinically related supplies comprises a purchase order.

6. A system according to claim 1, wherein the supply inventory data comprises supply codes captured in the at least one clinically related site.

7. A system according to claim 6, wherein the supply codes comprise at least one of optically scanned bar codes, radio frequency identification codes and manually entered codes.

8. A system according to claim 1, wherein the at least one order comprises a plurality of orders, and the fulfillment engine aggregates the orders for clinically related supplies for delivery.

9. A system according to claim 8, wherein the orders for clinically related supplies are aggregated for a plurality of clinical departments.

10. A system according to claim 1, wherein the at least one order for clinically related supplies is associated with an individual patient supply record.

11. A system according to claim 1, wherein the fulfillment engine triggers delivery of the at least one order for clinically related supplies based upon the at least one order for clinically related supplies and upon a set of rules.

12. A system according to claim 11, wherein the set of rules comprises a set of selectors based at least upon patient condition information, patient demographic information and supply location information.

13. A system according to claim 1, wherein the fulfillment engine is local to the at least one clinically related site.

14. A system according to claim 1, wherein the fulfillment engine is remote from the at least one clinically related site.

15. A method for automatically fulfilling orders for clinically related supplies, comprising:

automatically generating at least one order for clinically related supplies based supply consumption data documented for at least one clinical event from at least one clinically related site; and

triggering delivery of clinically related supplies based at least upon the at least one order for clinically related supplies.

16. A method according to claim 15, wherein the clinically related site comprises at least one of a hospital facility, a research facility and a government facility.

17. A method according to claim 15, wherein the supply inventory data comprises at least one of clinically available quantities of surgical devices, clinically available quantities of pharmaceuticals and clinically available quantities of consumable material.

18. A method according to claim 15, wherein the step of automatically generating at least one order comprises a step of generating the at least one clinical supply order based upon at least one clinical quantity threshold.

19. A method according to claim 15, wherein the at least one order for clinically related supplies comprises a purchase order.

20. A method according to claim 15, wherein the supply inventory data comprises supply codes captured in the at least one clinically related site.

21. A method according to claim 20, wherein the supply codes comprise at least one of optically scanned bar codes, radio frequency identification codes and manually entered codes.

22. A method according to claim 15, wherein the at least one order comprises a plurality of orders, further comprising a step of aggregating the orders for clinically related supplies for delivery.

23. A method according to claim 22, wherein the orders for clinically related supplies are aggregated for a plurality of clinical departments.

24. A method according to claim 15, further comprising a step of associating the at least one order for clinically related supplies with an individual patient supply record.

25. A method according to claim 15, wherein the triggering of delivery of the at least one order for clinically related supplies comprises triggering delivery based upon the at least one order for clinically related supplies and upon a set of rules.

26. A method according to claim 25, wherein the set of rules comprises a set of selectors based at least upon patient condition information, patient demographic information and supply location information.

27. A set of clinically related supplies generated for delivery, the set of clinically related supplies being generated by a method comprising:

automatically generating at least one order for clinically related supplies based upon supply consumption data documented for at least one clinical event from at least one clinically related site; and

triggering delivery of clinically related supplies based at least upon the at least one order for clinically related supplies.

28. A set of clinically related supplies according to claim 27, wherein the clinically related site comprises at least one of a hospital facility, a research facility and a government facility.

29. A set of clinically related supplies according to claim 27, wherein the supply inventory data comprises at least one of clinically available quantities of surgical devices, clinically available quantities of pharmaceuticals and clinically available quantities of consumable material.

30. A set of clinically related supplies according to claim 27, wherein the step of automatically generating at least one order comprises a step of generating the at least one clinical supply order based upon at least one clinical quantity threshold.

31. A set of clinically related supplies according to claim 27, wherein the at least one order for clinically related supplies comprises a purchase order.

32. A set of clinically related supplies according to claim 27, wherein the supply inventory data comprises supply codes captured in the at least one clinically related site.

33. A set of clinically related supplies according to claim 32, wherein the supply codes comprise at least one of optically scanned bar codes, radio frequency identification codes and manually entered codes.

34. A set of clinically related supplies according to claim 27, wherein the at least one order comprises a plurality of orders, and the method further comprises a step of aggregating the orders for clinically related supplies for delivery.

35. A set of clinically related supplies according to claim 34, wherein the orders for clinically related supplies are aggregated for a plurality of clinical departments.

36. A set of clinically related supplies according to claim 27, wherein the method further comprises a step of associating the at least one order for clinically related supplies with an individual patient supply record.

37. A set of clinically related supplies according to claim 27, wherein the triggering of delivery of the at least one order for clinically related supplies comprises triggering delivery based upon the at least one order for clinically related supplies and upon a set of rules.

38. A set of clinically related supplies according to claim 37, wherein the set of rules comprises a set of selectors based at least upon patient condition information, patient demographic information and supply location information.